

VISUAL INDICATION OF CURRENT VOICE SPEAKER

Abstract of the Disclosure

Visually identifying one or more known or anonymous voice speakers to a
5 listener in a computing session. For each voice speaker, voice data include a speaker
identifier that is associated with a visual indicator displayed to indicate the voice
speaker who is currently speaking. The speaker identifier is first used to determine
voice privileges before the visual indicator is displayed. The visual indicator is
preferably associated with a visual element controlled by the voice speaker, such as
10 an animated game character. Visually identifying a voice speaker enables the listener
and/or a moderator of the computing session to control voice communications, such
as muting an abusive voice speaker. The visual indicator can take various forms,
such as an icon displayed adjacent to the voice speaker's animated character, or a
different icon displayed in a predetermined location if the voice speaker's animated
15 character is not currently visible to the listener.